

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 00361 061747Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAM-01 AID-05 /076 W

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P R 061643Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3023

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO BRUFSELS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DIA WASH DC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0361

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, PINT

SUBJ: NICOS SAMPSON BAD PENNY

1. SUMMARY: SAMPSON PUTS IN ROWDY APPEARANCE AT GRIVAS CEREMONY JANUARY 25. PRESS OUTCRY FOLLOWF. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CALLS FOR INVESTIGATION AND HIS POSSIBLE INDICTMENT. APPROACHED PRIVATELY BY SAMPSON, USJVF LOCAL SAID (ON INSTRUCTIONS) THAT, CONTRARY TO RUMORS, U.S. HAD NOT PRESSED GOC FOR LEGAL ACTION AGAINST SAMPSON. GOC INVESTIGATION OF SAMPSON'S ACTIVITIES DURING AND AFTER COUP IS UNDERWAY WITH VIEW TO HIS BEING CRIMINALLY CHARGED. END SUMMARY.

2. ON JANUARY 25 MEMORIAL SERVICE WAS HELD IN LIMASSOL TO MARK SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF GRIVAF' DEATH. MAIN SPEAKER WAS UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS PROFESSOR KONIDARIS WHO CALLED FOR UNITY OF GREEK CYPRIOTS AND IMPLIED INTER ALIA THAT HAD GRIVAS LIVED, COUP AGAINST MAKARIOS WOULD NEVER HAVE TAKEN PLACE NOR WITH IT ALL  
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PAGE 02 NICOSI 00361 061747Z

THE EVIL'S THAT BEFELL HELLENISM IN WAKE OF SAMPSON'S

EIGHT-DAY GOVERNMENT. ALTHOUGH NOT SCHEDULED TO SPEAK AT THE SERVICE, NICOS SAMPSON, VISIBLY IN EVIDENCE WITH HIS SUPPORTERS IN AUDIENCE, WAS SOON CARRIED FORWARD ON THEIR SHOULDERS, DEPOSITED BY LOUDSPEAKER AND AFTER HEATED DISCUSSION WITH ORGANIZERS ALLOWED TO ADDRESS GATHERING. IN BRIEF, DISJOINTED AND NEARLY INCOHERENT SPEECH, SAMPSON REAFFIRMED HIS SUPPORT OF ENOSIS, ASSURED HIS LISTENERS THAT TURKISH INVADERS WOULD BE EXPELLED AND PROMISED THAT "THE TRAITORS TO THE NATION" WOULD BE PUNISHED.

3. GOC CONTROLLED BROADCASTING SERVICE CBC GAVE NO COVERAGE TO LIMASSOL EVENTS BUT LOCAL PRESS

PREDICTABLY HAD FIELD DAY. PRO-ENOSIS THARROS BANNER-HEADLINED JANUARY 27 "SEA OF PEOPLE" AND CLAIMED THAT ATTENDANCE AT SERVICE EXCEEDING 100,000 WAS SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE OF CONTINUED GREEK CYPRIOT SUPPORT OF ENOSIS. BEST ESTIMATES, HOWEVER, INDICATE CROWD NUMBERED LESS THAN 6,000. LEFTIST PRESS, MEANWHILE, CONTINUED CALLS FOR PURGE OF COUPISTS.

4. JANUARY 29 DEPUTY HADJIRACELOUS, SOMETIME POLITICAL ALLY OF SAMPSON, TABLED IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES RESOLUTION CALLING ON GOC TO ARREST SAMPSON IMMEDIATELY AND CHARGE HIS WITH CRIMES DURING AND AFTER COUP. RESOLUTION WAS WITHDRAWN WHEN UNITED PARTY FOOR LEADER PAPADOPOULOS OBJECTED ON GROUNDS RESOLUTUION CONSTITUTED LEGISLATIVE INTERFERENCE IN JUDICIAL MATTER. HOUSE PRESIDENT CLERIDES UNDERTOOK TO REQUEST ATTORNEY GENERAL REPORT BACK TO HOUSE ON POSSIBLE INDICTMENT OF SAMPSON.

5. APPARENTLY REACTING TO UNFOUNDED RUMORS THAT U.S. AND GERMAN EMBASSIES WERE PRESSING GOC FOR TRIAL, SAMPSON CONTACTED USIS LOCAL EMPLOYEE JAANUARY 30 TO ASK WHY, AND (ON OUR INSTRUCTIONS) WAS TOLD THAT U.S. HAD NOT DISCUSSED MATTER WITH  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NICOSI 00361 061747Z

GOC. FEBRUARY 1 GOC SPOKESMAN OFFICIALLY DENIED THAT U.S. OR FRG EMBASSIES HAD MADE ANY SUCH REQUEST.

6. FEBRUARY 3 GOC ANNOUNCED THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL HAD DIRECTED POLICE TO CARRY OUT INVESTIGATIONS FOR PURPOSE OF PROSECUTING SAMPSON "IN CONNECTION WITH HIS PARTICIPATION IN COUP OF JULY 1974 AND THE ILLEGAL ASSUMPTION BY HIM OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC."

WHEN INFORMED OF OFFICIAL ACTION, SAMPSON REFUSED  
OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE STATEMENT DECLARING: "I RESERVE  
RIGHT TO SAY IT BEFORE THE COURT." PRESS REPORTS  
FEBRUARY 4 INDICATED SAMPSON'S NAME WAS ADDED TO  
"STOP" LISTS AT ALL PORTS OF EMBARKATION.

7. SCORES OF PEOPLE WERE REPORTEDLY INTERVIEWED  
FEBRUARY 3 AND 4 WITH EMPHASIS ON MEMBERS OF POLICE  
ARRESTED DURING COUP AND EMPLOYEES OF GOVERNMENT  
BROADCASTING STATION AND OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY.  
PURPOSE, ACCORDING MININT VENIAMIN, IS TO ESTABLISH  
LINK BETWEEN SAMPSON AND THOSE WHO ACTUALLY USED ARMS  
AGAINST GOC. GOC SPOKESMAN HAS SINCE INDICATED THAT  
ONLY SAMPSON IS TO BE PROSECUTED AND THAT MAKARIOS  
WILL BE MAKING A STATEMENT ON ISSUE SHORTLY.

8. ACCORDING TO MININT VENIAMIN, MAKARIOS'  
DECISION FINALLY TO MOVE AGAINST SAMPSON, AFTER  
RESISTING FOR MORE THAN A YEAR CONSIDERABLE POPULAR  
(ESPECIALLY LEFTIST) PRESSURE TO DO SO, WAS RESULT OF  
SAMPSON'S UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR, WHICH CONSTITUTED  
INCITEMENT, AT GRIVAS MEMORIAL. VENIAMIN INFORMS  
US THERE AS NO EVIDENCE THAT SAMPSON HAD BEEN  
PLOTING ANYTHING NEW.

9. COMMENT: MANY GREEK CYPRIOTS, HOWEVER MUCH THEY MAY WANT  
TO SEE SAMPSON PUNISHED, ARE APPREHENSIVE THAT TRIAL  
MAY FURTHER DAMAGE ALREADY BATTERED SEMBLANCE OF GREEK  
CYPRIOT UNITY. SAMPSON'S LIMASSOL OUTBURST, OF COURSE,  
PROVIDES TURKISH CYPRIOTS IDEAL EXAMPLE OF HOW GREEK  
CYPRIOT VOLATILITY ON ENOSIS JUSTIFIES TURK  
SUSPICIONS AND REFUSAL OFFER CONCESSIONS. END COMMENT.

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PAGE 04 NICOSI 00361 061747Z

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## Message Attributes

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